

Message Text

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73

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 IO-14 EB-11 COME-00 FAA-00 DOTE-00

DODE-00 SS-20 NSC-07 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /085 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:COHEN:OSM

APPROVED BY AF:AMB. EASUM

L/AF:HUFFMAN - SUBS

AF:BLAKE (SUBS)

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O R 102110Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 097557

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, BEXP, GB, US

SUBJECT: DC-8 SALE TO GABON

REF: LIBREVILLE 567 AND ADDIS 5214

1. UNLESS EMBASSY ADDIS OBTAINS NEW INFORMATION TO THE CONTRARY, DEPT HAS NO OBJECTION TO YOUR CALLING BONGO'S ATTENTION TO OAU SECRETARIAT NOTE WITH RESPECT TO REFERRAL OF MATTER TO GOWON.

2. IF IT TURNS OUT THAT OAU HAS NOT REFERRED MATTER TO GOWON, AND EKANGAKI'S STATEMENT TO YOU IN LIBREVILLE IS LAST WORD WE LIKELY RECEIVE FROM THAT SOURCE, YOU OBVIOUSLY HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO TELL BONGO ISSUE STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON. BEGIN FYI: AGENCIES CONCERNED WITH EXPORT CONTROLS CURRENTLY PURSUING SEVERAL LINES OF INVESTIGATION WHICH SHOULD PROVIDE BETTER BASIS FOR JUDGMENT ABOUT PROPOSED SALE'S LEGALITY THAN CURRENTLY
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EXISTS. WE HOPE TO BE ABLE REACH CONCLUSION BY END OF MAY.

DEPT REALIZES BONGO WILL BE UNHAPPY WITH THE DELAY, BUT
WOULD HOPE THAT HE CAN UNDERSTAND OUR PREDICAMENT IN
LIGHT OF EARLIER DISAPPOINTMENT. END FYI

3. WITH RESPECT TO POSSIBLE PANAM MANAGEMENT CONTRACT FOR
AIR GABON, IT CLEARLY PREMATURE INJECT THIS ELEMENT INTO
OUR DIALOGUE WITH BONGO AT THIS TIME. AGREE, HOWEVER,

THAT IT LIKELY BECOME RELEVANT IF DC-8 ISSUE STILL
PENDING WHEN AND IF PANAM AGREES TO MAKE FIRM PROPOSAL.

4. ADDIS 5214 JUST RECEIVED. BELIEVE THIS IS OUR TRUMP
CARD FOR THE MOMENT. RUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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